VOLUME #16
October 1, 1979

The TV-TS Tapestry

The TV-TS Tapestry is a publication of the Tiffany Club (a social and service organization for transvestites, transsexuals, and their friends and relatives). The subscription fee is $15.00 per year. For information, write or call: Tiffany Club, P.O. Box 426, North Hampton, NH 03862, 603-964-8668.

MONTHLY REPORT Unless absolute disaster strikes, like the sun fails to shine or Route 128 moves to New Hampshire, the Tiffany Club will be moving into its new home on November 1. Diane did her job (bless her soul), and it looks like our wait was rewarded. (See our report later in the letter.) Now, we have a lovely little house with carpeting, chandeliers, lots of room, no furniture, nothing to sit on, to eat off, to sleep on, etc. Our first dinner party could very well be raw lasagna au natural served on the rug. BYOS (bring your own spoon)

The big news of the month (other than we found a home) is of course Fantasia Fair. It seems like when that monster rolls around, everything else comes to a stop. More on that later in the letter.

We have survived our first doldrum period (summer), Diane has fulfilled her promise and found us a home, and most Tiffany members have remained faithful. The Tiffany Club may how begin to realize its potential, thanks to you beautiful and patient people. Thank you and God bless you. Let's go to work.

Love,

Merissa Sherrill Lynn

In the letter:
Fantasia Fair, Report on HCHS Workshop,
House report
In the forum:
A Better Way to Be poem by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

BOSTON HOTLINE WORKSHOP

A workshop on crossdressing and transsexualism was helt September 19 at HCHS in Boston. Barbara (a new woman and VP of Hartford's 20 Club) and I (having had some experience with crossdressing myself) were invited. For me, for Barbara, and for the other participants, the workshop was both rewarding, and very interesting.

Two years ago Barbara and I visited HCHS for a similar workshop. Since then HCHS and the hotline have done a wonderful job, and have had a remarkable growth. In the past eight months alone they have doubled the number of people served, have increased the number of phone attendants to 35, and have 18 more ready for training. That means their services are in big demand, and not just for gay people, but for our people as well. The constantly increasing number of inquiries concerning transsexualism and crossdressing is what made the workshop necessary. The objective of the workshop was to better understand how the Tiffany Club and the Hotline people could work together to better serve all our people, crossdressers and gays alike.

BARBARA F. Good friend, lovely lady, successful person, member: Tiffany Club, VP and Treasurer of 20 Club. (Handy with a sewing machine too. Of course, Sylvia taught her.)

Hotline Cont.

Both Barbara and I arrived at the workshop straight from work. She looked happy and pretty, and I, dressed in my boring old three-piece suit, looked like I'd been dragged through a knothole (with a disposition to match). Quite naturally Barbara was the center of attention. (I was jealous!) The workshop began predictably enough, clearing the air on definitions, the nature of the TV-TS phenomena, and how to respond to most of the questions asked over the phone. Once we had all this relevant stuff out of the way, then the fun began.

To Barbara: Now that you have completed your surgery, what are you going to do with the rest of your life? How did your co-workers react after the transition? How did your family react? What do you tell newcomers who think they may be TS? How much did it cost? Did it hurt? (For the answers, you are just going to have to ask Barbara yourself!)

To me: What is the #1 problem crossdressers encounter? When you dress, what do you feel? Are you a different person than you are right now? Why are so many TVs interested in 'lesbian' relationships? When you go out, where do you go? Which bathroom do you use? How and where do you shop? Are you happy?

I love these questions, for I have, and I'm sure Barbara has as well, given many hours of good hard thought trying to answer them. To be able to answer them so that others may understand is in itself rewarding. However, to answer these questions so that these others can use my experience and knowledge to help others is even more rewarding. This workshop was most gratifying.

To Dave Ryder, the coordinator of the workshop, and to the Boston Hotline staff: Thank you! I enjoyed it.

FANTASIA FAIR

October is the month of the Fair, the transvestite event of the year. If you would like to take advantage of the Fair for a day, a weekend, or the whole week, you are most welcome!!! Don't miss it!

REGISTRATION: Gifford House (two blocks from the Crown and Anchor). Call: 617-487-9821 ask for Diane

A few highlights:

Friday 10/12 Registration Gifford House
Saturday: Orientation, assorted activities
Sunday: Brunch, activities around P-Town
Monday: Fashion Beauty course (all week)
Seminars, Swim Party at night
Tuesday: Seminars, Fashion Show & Raffle
Wednesday: Encounters of the 5th Kind (panel presentation)
Thursday: Costume & Talent Show
Friday: Newcomer's dinner
Saturday: Evening to Remember Awards Banquet, Drag Ball Crown & Anchor
Sunday: Teary Farewells, etc.

All in all, a week not to be missed!

SPECIAL NOTE: Merissa Lynn will be at the Fair for Sunday, 10/14, and would love to have dinner with all Tiffany members present. For info, see or call Diane at The Gifford House.

Ms Ariadne Kane - Director

Outreach Institute, and Fantasia

HOUSE SUMMARY

We have a lovely house in a beautiful and quiet neighborhood conveniently located a little northwest of Boston. The house is just minutes from Route 128, very accessable from all directions.

Towns within a 60 mile radius of our new house include Portsmouth NH, Concord NH, Fitchburg and Gardener Mass., Worcester Mass., Providence RI, Fall River Mass, and Plymouth Mass. Towns within a two hour drive include Portland Me., Springfield Mass., and Hartford Conn. That makes us convenient to lots of folks.

The house is on a side street with plenty of parking. There is a pretty yard with flowers and shrubs and a high cedar fence. We have three bedrooms, a living room, dining room, kitchen, front and back porches, and a large clean basement; plenty of space for overnight, storage, and lounging. In other words, it is just one bedroom short of being a perfect house for Tiffany. We couldn't ask for a nicer place in a better location, thanks to Diane.

We are in a quiet, neat and conservative neighborhood. We can't afford to do anything that will get us in dutch with the neighbors, or with the authorities. Also, we are a legal organization designed to serve our people. To be effective and to protect our legal status we can't afford to sacrifice our dignity and integrity. Also, our house is nice, but not really suited for large gatherings. Therefore, our house will not see any Gala bashes, wild frivolity, fairy queens tiptoeing down the sidewalk, or anythihg else that may draw unwanted attention. We'll go elsewhere to draw unwanted attention. Instead, the house will be our headquarters, a place for meetings, quiet gatherings, workshops, nice dinner parties, etc. The house will be our primary facility, our base of operations, a place from which to grow.

The house will initially cost the Tiffany Club $600.00 a month plus utilities. That's a tough sum to meet, which means the Club wibl be operated in a straight forward and businesslike manner. Everyone will be expected to live up to their financial commitments.

These commitments are:

General Membership $150.00 per year.
Keyholder Membership $250.00 per year.
Guests* $5.00 per visit. (* the exceptions are female guests, and those persons authorized by the board of directors)

As the effectiveness and survival of our organization depends on it, all persons who use our facilities must be familiar with our objectives and membership policy, and be willing to comply with our code of conduct. That means all persons must have met with and been OKed by a member of our screening committee, and once at the facilities exercise good manners and common sense, and protect the security of all.

(Any questions, contact Diane Berry or Merissa Lynn)

NEW MEMBERS

Let us welcome Nancy M. (NH), Richard B. Mass.), Linda W. (Mass.), Gary (Mass.), Marion P. (Mass., and a bridge player I understand), And Ellie B. (NY).

A TV who loves baseball, named Gloria
One day in a fit of euphoria,
In a most excellent manner
Sang The Star Spangled Banner,
Stark naked, at a game in Peoria

COMING EVENTS

TIFFANY CLUB

OPEN MEETINGS: Through October open meetings will continue every Tuesday evening as usual. Beginning Tuesday, November 6, open meetings will be held twice a week, Tuesday evenings and Saturday evenings, at our new facility in Massachusetts. There is a standard guest fee of $5.00 per visit, and for General and Keyholder members no charge. For information call 603-964-8668

HALLOWEEN: See Green Apple

LINGERIE PARTY: There will be an Undercover Wear lingerie party at our new house Saturday evening, November 10. Diane will be the hostess, and will be accompanied by her GG supervisor. (See notice in Bulletin Board.)
Non-member guest fee $5.00

THANKSGIVING: November 22 at Tiffany. What better way to spend the holiday than with your most beautiful sisters and friends. Guest fee $5.00, a mimimum contribution will be asked to help defray the cost of dinner.

MAYFLOWER

OPEN MEETINGS: Every Wednesday evening. Call 617-254-7389 Ask for Kay

MONTHLY PARTY: Last Saturday of every month.

GREEN APPLE (Rt 1 in Peabody, Mass.) 617-535-9840
Female impersonator shows seven nights a week 9:30 and 12;00
MC Karl Houston This month's special guest is BUSTY O'SHEA

HALLOWEEN PARTY: Wenesday Oct. 31 'THE' place to be on halloween.
(due to logistical problems - we have no house - Tiffany members planning to attend should make independant arrangements)

ALBANY TVIC

MONTHLY MEETINGS: Third Saturday of each month September to June. For information, write: William Thordsen, 1104 Broadway, Albany, NY 12200

NY HALLOWEEN PARTY For information contact Joyce Dewhurst, P.O. Box 1105, Woodside, NY 11377 212-545-4073

FANTASIA FAIR Provincetown, Oct. 12-21. Registration at The Gifford House. Call 617-487-9821 Ask for Diane

SHANGRI LA Annual TV event held in Gulfport, Miss. April 9-13, 1980
For information: Nancy Watson, P.O. Box 18202 Irvine, Cal. 92713

BULLETIN BOARD

FURNITURE WANTED

The Tiffany Club needs furniture for our new home. Couches, chairs, beds, lamps, wall decorations, anything we could use. (We could use most anything.)

BRIDGE PLAYERS STILL WANTED

Beginners, experts, we don't really care. After all, if you're gorgeous, who gives a damn about the cards?
Contact Merissa

bulletin board Cont.

LINGERIE
UNDERCOVER WEAR INC.

Our very own Diane is an agent for Undercover Wear, the first crossdresser approved to hold lingerie boutiques in homes. Naturally we plan to take advantage, beginning with a party in our home Nov. 10 (everybody come).

Undercover Wear lingerie is all top quality, no seconds, and the latest 1980 style. It is also designed to fit not only Misses sizes, but LARGE PEOPLE AS WELL!!!

Should be a fantastic party.

GREEN APPLE

Beginning Nov. 1, during weekdays showtimes will be 8:45 and 11:45. Weekends will remain 9:30 and 12:30.

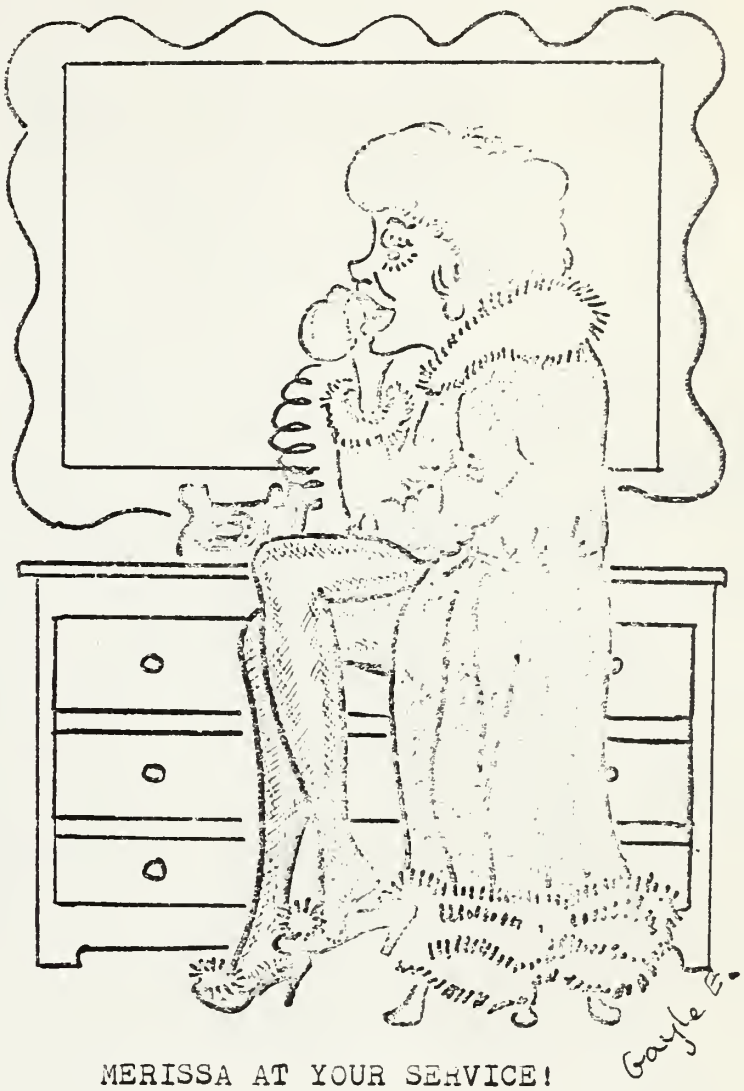
Shelly's
Tall Girl
Shops
clothes of indwiduality for
tall and longer waisted girls

BURLINGTON MALL
1309 (E-5)
BURLINGTON, MASS. 01803
(617) 272-5537

I dearly love girl talk, and giggling happily in the phone. If you do too, give me a call after 10pm, and befor 11:30 pm. Share with me the joy of being our feminine selves.
603-964-8668

Merissa
Sheriell Fagan
xxx

TIFFANY CLUB HOTLINE



MERISSA AT YOUR SERVICE!

"JOYCE" Cosmetics

Created and designed specifically for transvestites and transsexuals. Price list available. Write:
Joyce Dewhurst, P.O. Box 1105
Woodside, NY 11377

- FORUM -

The Forum is for exploring what we think, what we feel, what we say and do, for exploring our difficulties, our guilts and fears, and how we can overcome them. The Forums is not for fiction or fantasy or technical articles. Rather, it is for talk, for thought, for understanding ourselves and one another, and for sharing ourselves with others.

This month's contributions were a little skimpy, so it's a good time to follow up with another portion of my epic poem. My last portion was entitled 'A TREE', this portion is intitled 'A BETTER WAY TO BE'. I hope you enjoy it. (If you don't enjoy it, then you better hop to it and get in a contribution of your own.)

Forum Cont.

A BETTER WAY TO BE

by
Merissa Sherrill Lynn

I'm a prisoner of terms
That I do not understand,
Of words that have no meaning,
Of thoughts that do not end.
I'm a thinking sensing person
With feelings deep inside.
These are overwhelming feelings
That I do not wish to hide.
People say that God says
These feelings I have are wrong.
They are feelings for a woman and
In a man do not belong.
But everyone has these feelings
Whether you're a woman or a man,
And to say a man should not feel,
I can not comprehend.
If they're just felt by women
Than a woman I prefer to be,
But what it means to be a woman
Is a mystery to me.
Man can impregnate,
Women can give birth.
That to me seems natural
To populate the earth.
But then men and women
Must act in certain ways,
Be different in what they feel and do,
Different in what they say,
Play different roles in life,
And wear different clothes,
Play different childhood games,
And have different goals.
To be a woman or a man
Is supposedly sealed by fate.
What has all this got to do
With the ability to propogate?
Female and male is sex,
A matter of biology.
But masculine and feminine
Is a way to feel and be.
If feminine is woman,
And masculine is man,
Then I'd rather be a woman
If I possibly can.
When I see a woman I feel inside
A need to copy her.
She looks and walks in certain ways,
In ways that I prefer.
When I hear her talk to me
It's a musical talk
When I see her walk by me
It's a poetic walk.
When she floats into a room
In a flowing gown
She's a queen, she's a goddess,
My living soul is bound.
I want to worship her and take her
Deep inside my soul,
To love her, to be her,
To make my spirit whole.
To be a woman is an art,
It's spiritual poetry,
And to be a woman is
A better way to be.

Merissa Sherrill Lynn